and Pilots are previewed by a selection committee, associating outside resource persons/experts in the field of performing arts, to ensure quality and objectivity and transparency in selection. Selection is made on the basis of content and technical excellence of Production. This will ensure acquisition of good quality programmes.

Doordarshan has revised its guidelines for sourcing its programmes under various categories including entertainment.

Supply of Video Compression System

2214. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a 5-Channel Video Compression system supplied by M/s Gujarat Communication and Electronics Ltd. in 1995 at a cost of more than Rs.. three crore did not work;

(b) whether R&D wing of Doordarshan upgraded this system ;

(c) if so, at what cost;

(d) whether the liquidated charges amounting to Rs. 16.52 lakh have not been realised; and

(e) the steps being taken to realise the charges from the firm?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (e) The order for supply, installation and commissioning of 5 channel video compression system, for an experimental project of R&D wing of Doordarshan, at a cost of Rs. 3.30 crores was placed on M/s GCEL in January, 1995. As per terms of the order the MPEG-I system was to be supplied by 15-1-95 and to be later upgraded to MPEG-II system by 30th June, 1995. MPEG-1 compression system was installed and commissioned on 15-1-95 and later upgraded to MPEG-II system in April 2000 by the firm, at no extra cost. As per terms of the supply order, penalty of a maximum of 5% of the cost of equipment could be imposed on the supplier for delay in supply of equipment. 10% payment to the firm has been withheld and out of this, liquidated charges are to be realized.

Concession to entertainment sector

2215. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA' : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for providing more concession to the entertainment sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for giving it parity with the IT sector; and

(d) what would be the intended impact thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) This Ministry receives references seeking concessions and facilities for the entertainment sector from time to time. Such proposals are evaluated on merit and taken up with the Finance Ministry or any other concerned Ministry as warranted. The endeavour is to facilitate the entertainment sector to achieve its potential and promote growth in exports, so that this sector is able to increase its contribution towards generating income and employment in the country.

Cement cartel

2216. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that leading cement manufacturers in the country were accused of collusion for creating an artificial cement crisis and hike in the prices during 1999-2000;

(b) whether Government have investigated the cartel;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are also aware that cases of such cartel in cement sector existed in the country in the past also and are still pending for judgement; and

(f) if so, the details of the investigation done in the past and reasons for cases not being decided yet?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The MRTP Commission, which is a quasi-judicial body, have received four complaints since 1999-2000 alleging formation of a cartel by Cement manufacturers which are presently under their consideration. Thus, the matters are *sub-judice* before the Commission.

(e) and (f) In the year 1990-1992, MRTPC had received four complaints. Two of these have been disposed off, while the other two are *sub-judice* with the Commission.